

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 An aluminum nitride sintered body comprising  
crystal grains of an average grain size ( $D_{50}$ ) of 0.1 to  
2.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , and having a pore area ratio of not larger  
than  $1 \times 10^{-7}$ , a pore density of not larger than 0.05  
pores/ $\text{mm}^2$  of pores having diameters of not smaller than  
1  $\mu\text{m}$ , and a Vickers' hardness in a range of 14 to 17  
10 GPa. The aluminum nitride sintered body has a very  
small pore density despite of its relatively small  
crystal grain size, features excellent strength and  
mirror machinability, and is particularly useful as a  
material for circuit substrates on which fine wiring  
patterns are formed.

15

20

25

30

35